AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A container capable of being hermetically closed and storing a molten metal and supplying the molten metal to an outside using a pressure difference, comprising:

a frame body having an opening at an upper portion thereof;

a heat insulating wall laid onto an inner wall of the frame body;

a refractory storing bath, detachably inserted to an inner side of the heat insulating wall from the opening of the frame body to be integrally provided with the frame body;

a refractory and insulating member in a solid form containing a binder having a fusing point higher than that of the molten metal, inserted between the heat insulating wall and the refractory storing bath;

a lid that covers the opening of the frame body;

an introductory portion that introduces a gas for applying pressure into the storing bath covered with the lid; and

a supplying portion that supplies the molten metal stored inside the storing bath to an outside,

wherein the storing bath is formed so that a protruding portion extending to a vertical direction is formed on an inner side of the container and the flow path for the molten metal is provided inside the protruding portion, the flow path being made of ceramics,

wherein the storing bath is comprised of a seamless rigid body of ceramics having at least two engaging members fixed to an upper surface, outer surface or an inner surface thereof enabling a connection with an outside, and

wherein at least a part of the flow path is surrounded by a pipe made of ceramics.

2. (Currently amended) The container as set for the in claim 1,

wherein ~~a~~ the refractory and insulating member is in a granule form ~~is inserted between the heat insulating wall and the refractory storing bath~~.

3. (Currently amended) The container as set forth in claim 1,

wherein ~~a~~ the refractory and insulating member is in a powder form ~~is inserted between the heat insulating wall and the refractory storing bath~~.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the storing bath has a flow path that consists a part of the supplying portion in the inside thereof.

6. (Original) The container as set forth in claim 5,

wherein the supplying portion is comprised of the flow path and a pipe connected to the flow path.

7. (Currently amended) A method of producing a container capable of being hermetically closed and storing a molten metal and supplying the molten metal to an outside using a pressure difference, comprising:

laying a heat insulating wall on an inner wall of the frame body having an opening at an upper portion thereof;

detachably inserting a refractory storing bath from the opening of the frame body to an inner side of the heat insulating wall; ~~and~~

inserting a refractory and insulating member in a solid form containing a binder having a fusing point higher than that of the molten metal between the heat insulating wall and the refractory storing bath and causing the refractory and insulating member to melt and solidify; and

covering the opening of the frame body with a lid.

8. (Currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 7, ~~further comprising;~~

wherein the ~~inserting a~~ refractory and insulating member is in a granule form ~~between the heat insulating wall and the refractory storing bath~~.

9. (Currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 7, ~~further comprising;~~

wherein the ~~inserting a~~ refractory and insulating member is in a powder form ~~between the heat insulating wall and the refractory storing bath~~.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).